

Amendments to the Claims

Please cancel claims 1-13, 15-18, 27-39 and 41-43 without prejudice. Please Amend Claims 14 and 40. The Claim Listing below will replace all prior versions of the claims in the application:

Claim Listing

1-13. (Canceled)

14. (Currently amended) A method for supporting wireless communications between a transmitter and a receiver, the method comprising the steps of:

allocating both a first coded channel and a second coded channel in a common direction to support synchronized communications from the transmitter to the receiver;

assigning a time segment in which the transmitter communicates an indication to the receiver by generating a reference signal over a selected one of the first coded channel or the second coded channel;

maintaining transmissions on the first coded channel and the second coded channel in a time segment by analyzing the reference signal on the first coded channel or the second coded channel at the receiver; and

adjusting timing of the transmitter by sending a message from the receiver to the transmitter indicating whether to advance or retard timing so that subsequently generated reference signals on the first coded channel or the second coded channel fall within a corresponding time segment,

wherein the message indicating whether to advance or retard timing at the transmitter includes a single bit indicating whether to advance or retard timing, the timing is advanced or retarded a predefined time depending on a logic level of the single bit and

A method as in claim 13, wherein the timing is advanced or retarded based on a second predefined time if the single bit is in a same state for a predetermined number of periods in a row, the second predefined time being greater than the first predefined time.

15-18. (Canceled)

19. (Previously presented) A method for supporting wireless communications, the method comprising the steps of:

allocating a coded channel to support synchronized communications from each of multiple transmitters to a receiver;

assigning a first portion of the coded channel for use by a first transmitter to transmit a reference signal to the receiver; and

assigning a second portion of the channel for use by a second transmitter to transmit a message to the receiver, the first portion and the second portion of the coded channel transmitting different types of information between the multiple transmitters and the receiver.

20. (Original) A method as in claim 19, wherein the reference signal transmitted over the coded channel is a timing signal used to synchronize the first transmitter with the receiver.

21. (Original) A method as in claim 19, wherein the signal transmitted by the first transmitter does not include forward error correction information.

22. (Previously presented) A method as in claim 19, wherein the reference signal transmitted over the first portion of the coded channel does not include a data payload.

23. (Original) A method as in claim 19, wherein the reference signal is analyzed at the receiver and a feedback message is sent to the transmitter for adjusting its timing.

24. (Original) A method as in claim 19, wherein the feedback message indicates to the first transmitter whether to advance or retard its timing.

25. (Original) A method as in claim 19, wherein the coded channel is divided into time slots.

26. (Original) A method as in claim 19, wherein the second transmitter generates a message including forward error correction information.

27-39. (Canceled)

40. (Currently amended) A method for supporting wireless communications between a transmitter and a receiver, the method comprising the steps of:

allocating both a first coded channel and a second coded channel in a common direction to support synchronized communications from the transmitter to the receiver;

assigning a time segment in which the transmitter communicates an indication to the receiver by generating a signal at an adjusted power level over a selected one of the first coded channel or the second coded channel;

maintaining transmissions on the first coded channel and the second coded channel in a time segment by analyzing a power level of a transmission on the first coded channel or the second coded channel; and

adjusting a power transmission level of the transmitter by sending a message from the receiver to the transmitter indicating whether to increase or decrease its power level so that subsequently generated signals on the first coded channel or the second coded channel can be detected at the receiver,

wherein the message indicating whether to increase or decrease power level transmissions at the transmitter includes a single bit indicating whether to increase or decrease its power level of the signal transmitted over the first coded channel or the second coded channel, the timing is increased or decreased a predefined amount depending on a logic level of the single bit and

A method as in claim 39, wherein the power level of the signal is increased or decreased based on a second predefined amount if the single bit is in a same state for a predetermined number of periods in a row, the second predefined amount being greater than the first predefined amount.

41-43. (Canceled)